

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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TAGS: MILI, PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: U.S. RESIDUAL FORCES IN THAILAND

REF: (A) BANGKOK 6242; (B) BANGKOK 22496; (C) BANGKOK 6245

1. REF C TRANSMITS TEXT OF REVISED THAI PROPOSALS
ON SEVEN PRINCIPLES. THESE WERE HANDED TO AMBASSADOR
AT HASTILY SUMMONED MEETING AT MFA AFTERNOON MARCH 17.
AMBASSADOR WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DCM MASTERS AND POMIL
COUNSELOR BOEHM. THAI SIDE CONSISTED OF MFA UNDER
SECRETARY ANAN PANYARACHUN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL
AFFAIRS KOSON SINTHAWANON, AMERICAN DESK CHIEF WORAPHUT
CHAIYANAM, AND A MINISTRY LEGAL ADVISER.

2. BEFORE HANDING OVER REVISED PRINCIPLES, ANAN STRESSED
THAT HE LIKE AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE HAD TO ACT WITHIN
WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS. HIS WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS
CONSISTED OF THE THAI SEVEN PRINCIPLES HANDED TO THE
U.S. ON FEBRUARY 4. IN ORDER TO ALTER THEM, THE
APPROVAL OF THE CURRENTLY ABSENT FOREIGN MINISTER
WOULD BE NEEDED AND THE MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE
RESUBMITTED TO THE CABINET. THUS, WHILE ANA HAD
LATITUDE TO DISCUSS MATTERS WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK,
IT HAD TO BE UNDERSTOOD THAT BOTH THE TALKS ON THE
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MORNING OF MARCH 17 AND THIS AFTERNOON'S TALKS WERE AD REFERENDUM

AND IN NO WAY BINDING.

ANAN WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD CAREFULLY STUDIED THE U.S. PROPOSALS WITHIN THE LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE AND HAD PREPARED A REVISED SET OF PRINCIPLES WHICH SOUGHT TO ACCOMMODATE BOTH THE THAI AND THE U.S. POSITIONS, AND REPRESENTED A BLENDING OF THE TWO.

3. ANAN SAID THAT ONCE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES, MOREOVER, THE THAI WERE PREPARED TO CONCLUDE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, WITH THE TEXT CONTAINED IN PARA 2 REF C. THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE IN FORCE PENDING THE CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTING PRINCIPLE 6.

4. ANAN THEN OFFERED AN EXPLANATION OF EACH OF THE NEW SEVEN PRINCIPLES.

A. PRINCIPLE 1 WAS THE ORIGINAL THAI PROPOSAL, ACCEPTED BY THE U.S. SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLE 6 WITH THE WORD "NEW" SUBSTITUTED FOR "SPECIFIC."

B. PRINCIPLE 2 INCLUDED THE OPENING CLAUSE OF THE ORIGINAL THAI DRAFT, WHICH THE THAI CONSIDERED IMPORTANT TO RETAIN, AND ALSO BROUGHT IN THE REFERENCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS FROM THE U.S. DRAFT.

C. IN PRINCIPLE 3, THE THAI WISHED TO RETAIN THE WORD "INTERESTS" FROM THEIR ORIGINAL DRAFT, WHICH HAD BEEN REPLACED BY THE WORD "ENDEAVOR" IN THE U.S. DRAFT, AND TO DELETE FROM THE U.S. DRAFT THE REFERENCE TO "MUTUALLY AGREED PROCEDURES." IN EFFECT, THIS VIRTUALLY RESTORED THE ORIGINAL THAI LANGUAGE.

D. PRINCIPLE 4 HAD BEEN REVISED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MORNING DISCUSSION.

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E. PRINCIPLE 5, AS DISCUSSED IN THE MORNING, WAS THE ORIGINAL THAI DRAFT.

F. PRINCIPLE 6, ACCOMPANIED BY THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ELIMINATED THE HAITUS PROBLEM THAT WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE ARISEN ON MARCH 20. (COMMENT: FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE TREATMENT OF "TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES" ACCORDED BY THAILAND, SEE ARTICLE 5 OF THE

DRAFT AID BILATERAL AGREEMENT CONTAINED IN REF B).

G. PRINCIPLE 7 REFLECTED THE DISCUSSION OF THE SAME MORNING.

5. THE AMBASSADOR UNDERTOOK TO SUBMIT THE NEW THAI PROPOSALS TO WASHINGTON. HE AGAIN POINTED OUT THAT HE WOULD BE ABSENT FROM BANGKOK THROUGH MARCH 18, RETURNING EARLY MARCH 19, AND THAT MINISTER MASTERS WOULD DELIVER THE U.S. RESPONSE. WHITEHOUSE

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